

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-67 were previously cancelled. Claim 98 is currently amended. Claims 68-97, 110, 111 and 130-132 are currently cancelled. Claims 99-109 and 112 to 129 are currently withdrawn, all as follows.

Claims 1-97 (Cancelled)

98. (Currently Amended) A printing group of a printing press not having a dampening unit, said printing group comprising:

a plate cylinder;

at least first and second waterless planographic printing plates, each having a print image area and being arranged one behind the other in a circumferential direction of said plate cylinder and having first and second sets of adjacent printing plate ends extending longitudinally on said plate cylinder, said adjacent plate ends being located outside of said print image areas of said at least first and second waterless planographic printing plates;

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said at least first and second waterless planographic printing plates on said plate cylinder;

a printing blanket on a circumferential surface of said transfer cylinder and adapted to receive an ink image from said print image area of each said waterless planographic printing plate on said plate cylinder;

a printing blanket end receiving opening on said circumferential surface of said transfer cylinder, said opening being located opposite said a first set of said adjacent printing plate ends of said first and second circumferentially arranged printing plates;

a coating on said printing blanket and having a coating thickness, said coating being adapted to receive a print image from said print image area of each said waterless planographic printing plate;

a depression formed as a groove in said coating on said printing blanket, said groove depression being located opposite said a second set of said adjacent printing plate ends of said first and second circumferentially arranged printing plates and having a depth of between 5% and 15% of said coating thickness; and

a metal support plate supporting said printing blanket, said printing blanket end receiving opening and said printing blanket coating groove preventing said first and second sets of printing plate ends from forming a plate end print image on said coating.

99. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein two of said printing blankets are arranged side-by-side in an axial direction of said transfer cylinder.

100. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein said depression extends in an axial direction of said transfer cylinder.

101. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 further including a coating on said support plate of said printing blanket, said coating constituting a shell face of said transfer cylinder.

102. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 further including a multi-layer coating on each said printing plate, said coating including a lower layer and an upper layer.

103. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 102 wherein said lower layer is an ink-absorbing material and said upper layer is an ink-repelling material.

104. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 103 wherein said ink-repelling material includes silicon.

105. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 103 wherein said upper layer is discontinuous.

106. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 102 wherein said upper layer overlies said lower layer in areas of a print image not to be printed.

107. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 further including spaced first and second ends of said printing blanket, said depression being formed by a distance between said spaced first and second printing blanket ends.

108. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 107 wherein said depression is parallel to a longitudinal axis of said transfer cylinder.

109. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein said depression is a groove formed in said printing blanket.

110. (Cancelled)

111. (Cancelled)

112. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 101 wherein said coating includes first and second coating ends and wherein said depression in a groove centered between said first and second coating ends.

113. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein said depression has a depression width and said printing blanket has a printing blanket length, both in a circumferential diameter of said transfer cylinder, said depression width being 0.1% to 1.0% of said printing blanket length.

114. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein said metal support plate is sheet metal.

115. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 114 wherein said metal support plate is steel.

116. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 101 wherein said coating is rubber.

117. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 116 wherein said rubber coating is a multi-layer rubber material.

118. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 101 wherein said coating has a ground surface.

119. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 further including an underlayer between said printing blanket and said circumferential surface of said transfer cylinder, said underlayer including an underlayer depression.

120. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 further including a plurality of said printing blankets arranged axially side by side on said transfer cylinder.

121. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein each said waterless planographic printing plate extends axially the length of said plate cylinder.

122. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein a plurality of said waterless planographic printing plates are arranged axially side by side on said plate cylinder.

123. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 wherein a size of each said waterless planographic printing plate corresponds to a newspaper page.

124. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 98 further including temperature control means for at least one of said plate cylinder and said transfer cylinder.

125. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 124 wherein said temperature control means is an interior temperature control means.

126. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 125 wherein said interior temperature control means includes heat carrier circulating conduits.

127. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 126 wherein said heat carrier circulating conduits are adapted to receive a fluid.

128. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 124 wherein said temperature control means senses a circumferential speed of said at least one of said plate cylinder and said transfer cylinder.

129. (Withdrawn) The printing group of claim 122 wherein said plate cylinder includes plate end receiving openings aligned in an axial direction of said plate cylinder.

130. (Cancelled)

131. (Cancelled)

132. (Cancelled)